

DC Commission on Persons with Disabilities
Minutes
February 26, 2009

Attendance:

Commissioners:

Karen Wolf-Branigin
Seth Galanter
Denise Decker
Frank Anderson
Don Galloway
Charles Butler
Jon Mitchiner

Staff:

Christina Mitchell
Susie McFadden-Resper

Don Galloway opened the meeting with a discussion about last months meeting minutes. Frank Anderson moved to approve the meeting minutes with the appropriate typographical changes. Charles Butler seconded the motion. DCCPD voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Mr. Galloway welcomed our 5 visitors from the Department of Health Services Management and Leadership at The George Washington School of Health Sciences. One of the students (Tate) explained that the group was there to observe the operations of a standard meeting and its functions. Mr. Anderson briefly explained the history of the DCCPD inceptions and the predecessor MCPD.

Christina Mitchell briefly explained the contents of the meeting folders and explained the addition of DDS Newsletter. Considering the Commission is related to all persons with disabilities, we wanted to add other agencies that are associated with persons with disabilities. Mr. Galloway started a brief discussion about the ODR Report.

Susie McFadden-Resper briefly spoke to the DCCPD regarding the Building Emergency Evacuation Comprehensive plan for persons with disabilities that is in the planning stage for One Judiciary Square, based on conversations held with building management. Mr. Butler expressed the importance of using the "buddy" system during evacuations and having a safe place included in the plan.

Mr. Galloway moved to the discussion of the projects and initiatives. The DCCPD briefly discussed their current time constraints and extended the report until of next meeting. Mr. Butler suggested that the monthly meetings be used as a reporting period opposed to a discussion time, also referencing the 7 months remaining before the October Disability Awareness Month Conference.

Dr. Decker asked the status of the new members and the chair appointment. Mr. Anderson mentioned that the bylaws allow the DCCPD to bring on ad-hoc members to be a part of committees and also have non-voting participation in the monthly meetings.

Mr. Galloway announced a meeting the following day at the DC Center for Independent Living regarding the internal shifting around within the Office of Boards and Commissions, and the many changes or lack there of.

Mr. Anderson suggested that his committee, Policy and Planning will develop a procedure by which the DCCPD can screen and accept applications from persons willing to serve as auxiliary members. Karen Wolf-Branigin reminded the DCCPD of communication via email between meetings works well in order to stay up to date on issues.

Policy & Planning	Outreach & Events	Evaluation & Monitoring
Sign Language Certifications		Case Handling by OAG
Visitability		
Transportation		
Taxicab Certification		
Assistive Tech. Directory		

Below please find our committees member listing.

Policy and Planning Committee

Frank Anderson (Chair) Jon Mitchiner Charles Butler
Denise Decker

Events and Outreach Committee

Erica Nash (Chair) Don Galloway

Evaluation and Monitoring Committee

Seth Galanter (Chair) Frank Anderson Karen Wolf Branigin
Don Galloway

Each Committee Chair has agreed to connect the members of their team to set-up separate meetings time, either my phone, web or in-person.

Mr. Galloway began a discussion about the video capabilities. Christina explained that after some research and discussion with Erica Nash the DCCPD created a Skype account. Skype is a free web-program that allows individuals to video conference in real time, similar to some instant messaging programs.

Mr. Galloway moved on to the final topic, the Disability Awareness Conference. Christina explained that Disability Awareness Month is in October and that the DCCPD will be hosting the conference. During the next few months the Events and Outreach Committee of the DCCPD will be conducting meetings with the purpose of fund-raising and inviting vendors to participate in the annual conference.

The next DCCPD meeting is March 26, at 9:00 AM in conference room #1112.